(ii) Development of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4000 MW capacity each under tariff based competitive bidding route.

(iii) "Partnership in Excellence" Programme starting with adoption of better operation and maintenance (O&M) practices to enable enhancement of Plant Load Factor (PLF) of existing thermal power stations through tie-up with well performing power utilities as a pre-cursor to renovation and modernization.

(iv) Import of coal and RLNG to bridge the gap between demand and anticipated production from domestice sources.

(v) Utilization of unutilized capacity of gas based power stations on liquid fuel.

(vi) Harnessing surplus captive into grid.

(vii) Strengthening of inter-state and inter-regional transmission capacity for optimum utilization of available power.

Power proposals from Rajasthan

698. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of power proposals from Rajasthan including those under the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme are pending with the Central Government for approval;

(b) if so, the status thereof; and

(c) the time-frame within which these pending proposals would be cleared by Government?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) No proposal from Rajasthan is pending under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP). With the coming into effect of the Electricity Act, 2003 the techno-economic clearance of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is no longer required for thermal generation projects. Concurrence of CEA is now required only for setting up of Hydro electric schemes whose estiamted capital expenditure exceeds the notified limits. No such proposal of Rajasthan is pending with the Government.

Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), Government of India has laready sanctioned 25 projects at sanctioned cost of Rs. 453.23 crores to Rajasthan for electrification of 1705 un-electrified villages, 10,09,310 un-electrified rural households (including 6,99,651 BPL households). The remaining projects under the scheme from Rajasthan will be examined after approval is received for continuation of RGGVY in Xlth Plan.

Rural Electrification in Orissa

699. SHRI B.J. PANDA-
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has committed that all the villages in Orissa would be lighted up by 2009, under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana;